

The siting of a disproportionate number of New York City's waste transfer and waste processing facilities in the Hunts Point area of my South Bronx congressional district, and the related particulate-spewing diesel truck traffic, have led to disproportionate levels of asthma and other respiratory illnesses among my Hunts Point constituents, especially the children. Without attention to environmental justice, the more disenfranchised a community is, the likelier it is to find itself the depository for more powerful people's waste.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
LOUIS STOKES

SPEECH OF

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 23, 1998*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I insert the following for the RECORD:

I want to add my voice to the tributes offered by the Congressional colleagues of the Honorable LOUIS STOKES. When I first came to Washington, nearly six years ago, as the Assistant Secretary of Community Planning and Development at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, LOUIS STOKES was Mr. Chairman. He was the Chairman of the Subcommittee that controlled the purse strings for all the creative ideas that a new Administration wanted to implement—an unprecedented increase in funding for the homeless, funding for partnerships between the Federal Government and not for profit organizations to build and rehabilitate affordable housing, a new economic development grant program. And he agreed with those initiatives and helped restore the Department as the agency that is dedicated to assisting the most vulnerable among us and to revitalizing our cities and towns.

Now as ranking member of that same Subcommittee, he continues to help this Administration and me as Secretary of the Department. He has been with me every step of the way as we have "reinvented" HUD and I counted on his advice and counsel. Now that we are beginning to see the results of that reinvention, he has fought to give the Department the resources it needs to create jobs and economic opportunity to meet the challenges of the global economy and the demands of American cities. He has fought steadfastly to expand and preserve housing opportunities for renters in public and assisted housing, for homebuyers, and for the homeless. He has fought unabashedly to end the scourge of housing discrimination. He has taken on all these battles even in the face of terribly tight budget strictures.

Perhaps it was growing up in public housing, but, whatever the reason, Congressman Stokes sought to serve on the two appropriations subcommittees that reach those most in need—VA, HUD and Independent Agencies and the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, & Related Agencies. And serve those in need, he has. He is a man who cares deeply about the programs of this Department and the people they impact.

So I want to pay tribute to him and to say how deeply I appreciate his long, hard work. I will miss him and the people who rely upon HUD's programs will miss him.

IN TRIBUTE

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 28, 1998*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, upon my return from my home district of Guam yesterday, I had the privilege to pay respects to slain Officers Jacob J. Chestnut and John Gibson. As Members of Congress join the nation in mourning the passing of these two gentlemen who paid the supreme sacrifice for our safety and protection, I could not help but reflect upon my constituents from Guam, people who, like me, have to overcome the rigors of traveling several thousand miles in order to experience, to participate, or maybe even just to catch a glimpse of their government at work.

As with everyone, the highlight of my constituents' Washington, D.C. trip is a visit to Members' offices and a tour of the Capitol. Times like these remind us of the valuable service provided by police officers stationed at different posts within the Capitol complex ensuring the safety of constituents who travel the many miles in order to visit members who represent them in this body.

Speaking not only for myself but for the people of Guam, I wish to express appreciation to the Capitol Hill Police Force who, by the loss of Officers Gibson and Chestnut, demonstrated their willingness to lay down their lives for the safety and protection of Members of Congress and our constituents. As quoted from the Book of John, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John Gibson and J.J. Chestnut gave their lives so that others may live.

Roman Benavente, a retired Capitol Police officer—a native son of Guam who has chosen to reside in the State of Maryland, has called together members of the Guam Society of America to honor the slain officers in a Memorial Mass to be celebrated this Friday at St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Oxon Hill, Maryland. I hope that my colleagues would be able to join Guam residents in the area for this memorial service.

The sacrifice of Officers Gibson and Chestnut will never be forgotten. On behalf of the people of Guam, I extend sincerest thanks to Officer Chestnut and Officer Gibson for their sacrifice. To the families and loved ones of these two American heroes, we offer our most heartfelt sympathies.

FUNDING FOR THE  
INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

**HON. TIM ROEMER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 1998*

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, this year, to my disappointment, the House of Representatives voted to continue funding the International Space Station. The amendment I introduced with Representative CAMP to cancel the space station program would have ended the single largest wasteful government program in history.

Today, I am proud and pleased to have introduced my amendment to the VA-HUD appropriations bill for fiscal year 1999 that was supported by 109 Representatives. I strongly believe that my amendment reflects the best interests of the United States, the taxpayers and certainly of NASA and the American space program.

Like most of my colleagues, I am a strong supporter of the American space program. However, I find it sad to see that productive and more worthwhile space programs are being shut down so that larger and larger amounts of NASA funding are claimed by a space station program that has already cost almost \$20 billion with no hardware in space to show for it.

In 1993, upon NASA's final redesign of the space station, we were told that the program would cost no more than \$17.4 billion and that our partnership with the Russian Government would save American taxpayers around \$2 billion. This was still a huge increase over the Reagan Administration's initial plan to build the station for \$8 billion and complete it by 1994. Now NASA has accepted the findings of the Cost Assessment and Validation Task Force, also known as the independent Chabrow committee, which concluded the program will cost \$24 billion and an additional \$130 million to \$250 million for each month that the station assembly is delayed. And it will be delayed—probably by at least two years.

Also, Mr. Speaker, GAO now tells us that the program will cost more than \$100 billion. This does not include additional costs associated with Russia's potential withdrawal from the partnership or the costs of upgrading the station's defense system to protect it against meteorites and orbital debris. Nor does the \$100 billion pricetag include disassembly costs, which GAO says could be "prohibitively expensive" and could exceed \$5 billion. These "unforeseen" funding contingencies are indeed shocking and clearly jeopardize the future and integrity of the entire U.S. space program.

The magnitude of these dramatic cost overruns and assembly delays are unacceptable and sure to result in the cannibalization of the so-called "smaller, better, faster, cheaper" space missions. If we do not move to cancel the space station now, then these smaller, but important, missions will most likely never share the tremendous success of projects like the Hubble Space Telescope and the Mars Sojourner Pathfinder. This is a shame, and a disappointment to the entire scientific community.

While the Russians remain competent in repeating missions that have been flown for three decades, they have been unable to fund development of reliable new technologies or to deliver critical component parts such as the Service Module. Everything that worked on Mir involves 20-year-old technologies. A year ago, when a fundamentally new space docking procedure was attempted, the result was a collision that punched a hole in the space station, crippling it and almost killing the crew. Other new Russian space vehicles such as the Mars probe and its plutonium batteries have also failed. This does not bode well for the space station.

The Russians have repeatedly promised to develop a series of new and improved space vehicles to help assemble the space station.